

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following new section to the subject application immediately preceding the section entitled "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS":

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The specific features, aspects and advantages of the present invention will become better understood with regard to the following description, appended claims and accompanying drawings where:

FIG. 1A shows an exemplary side view of one embodiment of a collapsible garment hanger according to the present invention in its retracted position.

FIG. 1B shows an exemplary side view of the collapsible garment hanger of FIG. 1A in its extended position.

FIG. 2A shows an exemplary side view of another embodiment of a collapsible garment hanger according to the present invention in its extended position.

FIG. 2B shows an exemplary side view of the collapsible garment hanger of FIG. 2A in its retracted position.

FIG. 3A shows an exemplary side view of yet another embodiment of a collapsible garment hanger according to the present invention in its extended position.

FIG. 3B shows an exemplary side view of the collapsible garment hanger of FIG. 3A in its retracted position.

FIG. 3C shows an exemplary side view of the fixed arm of the collapsible garment hanger of FIG. 3A.

FIG. 3D shows an exemplary side view of the guide bar and spacer of the collapsible garment hanger of FIG. 3A.

FIG. 4A shows an exemplary side view of yet another embodiment of a collapsible garment hanger according to the present invention in its extended position.

FIG. 4B shows an exemplary side view of the collapsible garment hanger of FIG. 4A in its retracted position.

FIG. 5A shows an exemplary side view of yet another embodiment of a collapsible garment hanger according to the present invention in its extended position.

FIG. 5B shows an exemplary side view of the collapsible garment hanger of FIG. 5A in its retracted position, and also shows the detail of an alternative embodiment in which the slots in both the fixed and sliding arms of the hanger have a detent at their endpoint.

FIG. 6 shows an exemplary perspective view of a removable cam shaped guide pin according to the present invention that can alternatively be used in place of the fixed guide bar used in the collapsible garment hanger of FIG. 4A.

Please replace paragraph [0027] of the published subject application with the following paragraph:

In one embodiment of the collapsible garment hanger according to the present invention, arched arms are employed as shown in FIG. 1A, where a side view of the garment hanger in its retracted position is presented. The hanger consists of a hook element 101 and two arched arms, specifically a hollow fixed arm 105 and sliding arm 107. The hook element 101 is attached to the fixed arm 105 to provide support for the garment hanger when hanging on a clothes rod. This hook element 101 is located asymmetrically on the fixed arm 105 so its

support is contiguous with it, but with an offset spacing 109. The hook element typically resembles the hook portion of any standard clothes hanger. However, it may be made to resemble the hook portion of more specialized garment hangers, such as those designed to hang clothes from non-standard clothes rods which are typically smaller in diameter than standard rods. Additionally, the hook element 101 may contain a grasping point 103 on either side of the hook element 101. A stop latch 119 may also be attached to the fixed arm 105 at the anterior end of the hook element 101. Additionally, the fixed arm 105 has a stop 115 attached to the distal end of the arm relative to the hook element 101, and a contact point 121 (shown in FIG. 1B) in its lower proximate end. The sliding arm 107 fits within the hollow fixed arm 105 such that it can slide back and forth within the fixed arm 105. The sliding arm 107 contains a minimum number of loosely fitting contact points including an upper contact point 111 and a lower contact point 113 that are disposed along the top and bottom of the sliding arm 107. These contact points act as stops when they mate with points along the inside portion of the fixed arm 105 as well as the stop latch 119. Additionally, the sliding arm 107 contains another contact point 117 located on the bottom which rests against the lower portion of the fixed arm 105 when the sliding arm 107 is in the retracted position.

Please replace paragraph [0030] of the published subject application with the following paragraph:

Additionally, lower contact point[[s]] 113 on the sliding arm 107 can be made to mate with contact point[[s]] 121 (shown in FIG. 1B) on the fixed arm when the fixed arm 105 is fully extended. The stop latch and/or contact points constrain the motion of the sliding arm 107 to the desired range. Once the hanger has been inserted into a garment with its sliding arm 107 in the fully extended position, the weight of the garment will provide sufficient friction to keep the sliding arm 107 in place.

Please replace paragraph [0038] of the published subject application with the

following paragraph:

This embodiment works much the same way as the previous described versions. Specifically, as shown in FIG. 4B, the moving arm 405 can be made to retract into the fixed arm 403 manually or through gravity by raising the end with the moving arm 405 upward allowing the force of gravity to slide the moving arm 405 towards the distal end of the fixed arm 403. After being inserted in its retracted position into the neck of a typical garment the moving arm 405 can then be made to extend by tilting the hanger downward and allowing gravity to slide the sliding arm 405 into the extended position or by manually moving it into place. However, in this embodiment the upper edge of the sliding arm 405 is a molded sloped edge that creates a shoulder angle without the need for an asymmetrically enlarged slot to change the shoulder angle of the hanger.

Please replace paragraph [0041] of the published subject application with the following paragraph:

In another embodiment of the collapsible garment hanger rivet shaped pins can be set in socket holes in the fixed arm of the hanger. This would allow a user to incrementally change the shoulder angle and extension length by preventing movement of the sliding arm at varying points along the fixed arm. Referring to FIG. 5A where a perspective side view of this embodiment is shown in the ~~retracted~~ fully extended position, a hook element 501 with a grasping point 503 is located asymmetrically on the upper end of a fixed arm 505 such that it is contiguous with the fixed arm 505. A sliding arm 507 is attached to the fixed arm 505 by means of a guide pin 519 that passes through the top corner of the sliding arm 507 and snaps to the upper slot 521 located on the fixed arm 505. The guide pin, while attaching the sliding arm 507 to the fixed arm 505, would permit the sliding arm 507 to move along the length of the upper slot 521 manually or through the force of gravity as described above. Additionally a lower slot 509 is in the sliding arm 507 and socket holes (not shown) are in the fixed arm 505 directly behind the lower slot 509. This construction would permit rivet shaped pins 511

to pass through the sliding arm 507 and snap onto the fixed arm 505 through the socket holes. In this manner the sliding arm 507 will slide along the fixed arm 505 manually or through the force of gravity but its forward movement would be stopped when the distal end of the sliding arm 507 slides against ~~[[a]] the~~ rivet shaped pins 511 set in ~~[[a]] the~~ socket holes~~[[511]]~~. This construction allows a user to set a desired shoulder angle~~[[s]]~~ or extension length by inserting a pin into the appropriate socket hole 511. If a pin is inserted into a socket hole on the fixed arm 505 at a point closest to the hook 501, the sliding arm 507 can be made to slide the full length of the fixed arm 505 and will create the maximum extension length of the hanger needed for larger garments. The placement of the pin in this position will also create the smallest shoulder angle possible for this hanger. If, however, the pin is inserted into a socket hole furthest from the hook 501, then the shoulder angle created with the sliding arm 507 in its fully extended position will be increased and the extension length of the hanger will be reduced.

Please replace paragraph [0042] of the published subject application with the following paragraph:

~~[[It is]]~~ In an alternate embodiment ~~that~~ the fixed and sliding arms 505 and 507 can be molded contiguously with the pins 519 and 511 such that pin 519 can be first assembled into slot 521 by rotating sliding arm 507 ~~[[90.degree.]]~~ 90 degrees with respect to fixed arm 505. Then pins 511 are snapped through the opening 523 in two steps, when the pins 511 and opening 523 are sequentially aligned. Once assembled, the hanger of FIG. 5A is stable.

Please replace paragraph [0044] of the published subject application with the following paragraph:

In one alternative embodiment the slots in both the fixed and sliding arms have a detent at an endpoint. Referring to FIG. 5B, the detents in the slots are shown as small curved portions of the slots located at one end of the lower slot 515, and one end of the upper slot ~~549~~ 520. In this embodiment the detents

serve to restrain the sliding arm 507 from moving when it is in its extended position within a garment by acting as a catch that holds onto any guide pin when the hanger is in its extended position.

Please replace paragraph [0045] of the published subject application with the following paragraph:

In another alternative embodiment a molded lower extension is used to support the extended moving arm at the lower left of the fixed arm and to also cover the moving arm to avoid interfering drag from any garment folds of fabric that might be present at that location. As is shown in FIGS. 5A and 5B, the molded lower extension 517 sits directly below the sliding arm 507 of the hanger and extends slightly beyond the width of the sliding arm 507. The lower extension 517 will therefore hold the garment fabric away from the sliding arm 507 once the hanger is inserted in the garment and therefore prevent the movement of the arm from being slowed or stopped by any of the garment fabric.

Please replace paragraph [0046] of the published subject application with the following paragraph:

In another alternative embodiment holes or open sections are made in the distal end of the fixed arm as well as the sliding arm to balance hanger in extended position. As is shown in FIG. 5A portions of the distal end of the molded fixed arm have been removed leaving holes 513 in the hanger. Holes 512 are also shown in the same figure in the center of the sliding arm. This allows the hanger to hang garments evenly by balancing the weight of the hanger when it is in the extended position.